

GERMANS RENEW STRONG ATTACKS IN BELGIUM

GERMANS RENEW DRIVE AGAINST BARRIER FORTS

Recapture Chauvencourt.
Held by French for a Day.

VIOLENCE OF FLANDERS BATTLE DIMINISHES

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Nov. 20.—The onfall of winter has nerved the energy of Allies and Germans in Belgium and northern France. Snow is falling. Gales from the north have driven floodwater far inland, widening the inundated district. Infantry operations are well high impossible. The official reports issued by the French Government show that the elements have been for the time being both the men in gray and the men in khaki.

Neither side can do more than hammer the other with big guns. It appears that there was no important activity today anywhere along the front, but yesterday there was an artillery combat south of Ypres, the left of the position held by the British. The Germans did not press their artillery attack as strongly as on the previous day.

It is officially announced that the Germans were forced to abandon heavy guns because of the spreading waters. Near Ramscapelle the Allies salvaged two large mortars which the Germans were unable to remove. The reports of correspondents say that both sides have lost cannon and automobiles since the flood changed the character of operations. There is no doubt that bad weather has increased the exhaustion of the troops and there is much illness in the trenches.

The official report of the afternoon pointed to a new effort by the Germans to extend the wedge they have driven between Verdun and Toul at St. Mihiel, on the Meuse. At the same time the French troops, who have never ceased their efforts to envelop the Germans holding St. Mihiel, seem to have anticipated the plan and to have advanced a little from the north and south of their line, which forms three parts of a circle around St. Mihiel.

It is admitted that the Germans have again taken the western part of the village of Chauvencourt on the west bank of the Meuse. On November 17 the French reported the capture of a portion of the village. The next day the official report announced that the Germans had again taken Chauvencourt from the French. The French, however, stated that a detachment of French was destroyed and apprehension is as to the means removed by the statement that the Germans are again at Chauvencourt.

At the time being this region is a center of interest. The French are making desperate efforts to save their lines east of St. Mihiel and thereby cut off a large German force. The Germans are trying as desperately to keep open the only breach they have made in the barrier of fortresses.

The communique issued at 10:40 tonight was as follows:

There is no incident of note to report. The report of the afternoon explained the causes of the cessation of fighting in the north and offered brief details of the operations at the east of the line. It was as follows:

The day of November 19 was marked by the almost total absence of infantry attacks on the part of the enemy and their artillery fire was much less violent than on the previous day.

To the north the weather has been very bad and snow has fallen. All the region of the Yser Canal to the east of Dixmude is invaded by the waters.

In the front of Ramscapelle we have taken from the water two 165 centimeter mortars abandoned by the Germans.

There has been a fairly intense artillery fire to the south of Ypres.

On the center there has been no important action to report. In the Artois three vigorous attacks on the part of the enemy's infantry have been repulsed.

On our right wing the Germans have recaptured the destroyed section of Chauvencourt. Further to the east we have made some progress.

GERMANS SUFFER MUCH.

Rains Aid Floods in Rendering Their Trenches Uninhabitable.

By WILLIAM RIDDALE.

Special Correspondent of the London "Daily News."

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

"Belgium," Nov. 19 (Delayed).—The Germans are making persistent efforts to hold the land of the water with which the Belgians have hindered this work, and at least the expense of shallow water in some areas has been changed to deep mud, through which no horse or man could pass. Of course there are roads, but the French guns can command all of them. Nevertheless, it seems obvious that these attempts to clear the flood would not have been made unless the Germans thought themselves in sufficient force to push home the attack.

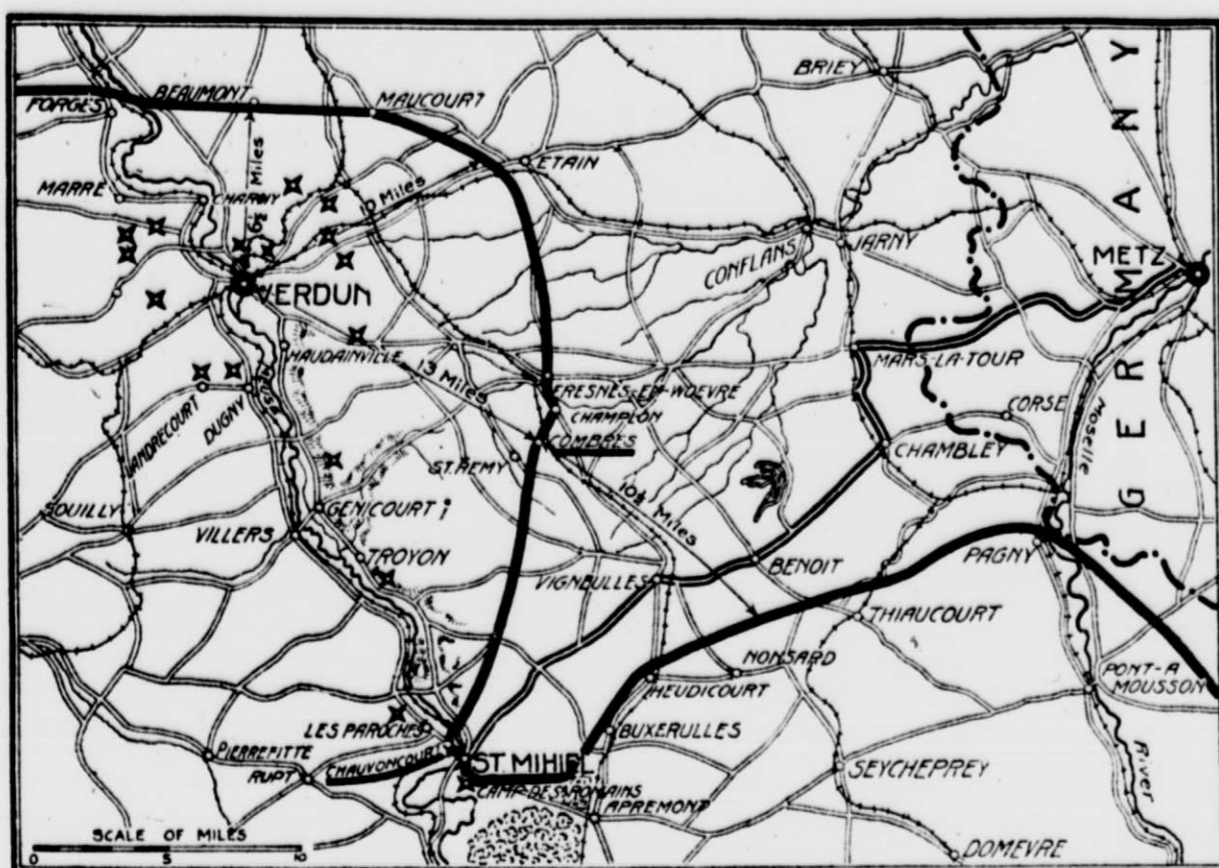
The Germans have undoubtedly suffered irreparable agonies in the last fortnight. Prisoners have been taken in a state of semi-collapse. They have stood the trenches in water to their thighs, in snow rain and bitter wind. Some have been taken because they were too exhausted to pull a trigger, others because they have suffered from lack of food, but not been so much exhausted as that of the Germans because water was not found in the trenches to any marked extent.

KAISER NEAR HIS FOE.

Emperor Cheers On Men Ten Miles From Allies' Line.

London, Nov. 20.—The correspondent of the Daily Mail in northern France sends the following dispatch:

The main German attacks continue to be directed to the east and southeast of Ypres. There has been a further bombardment of Newport. All the German attacks have failed. That is the latest that can be said. The Allies have held the line for weeks and the Germans cannot go further forward, while their



An attempt has been made in the above map to show in detail the operations around Verdun and along the heights of the Meuse. The French official statement yesterday afternoon said that the French forces had been driven out of Chauvencourt, where a part of their force is believed to have been destroyed by German mines on Wednesday. This attempt of the French to drive back the point of the German wedge in the Verdun-Toul barrier has, for the moment, failed.

The German official communique yesterday spoke of repulsing a French attack against Comblé, a short distance south of Fresnes. French forces north and south of the German salient at St. Mihiel have made slight advances in the past few weeks, so that the Germans have only one road (marked on the map) by which they keep open their communications with Metz. The French forces north and south of this road are only about ten miles apart.

These attacks, expressed repugnance at the butchery. "It makes you feel like a firing party," said an informant.

"The Germans, I gather, have reason even for this deliberate sacrifice of men. I am told that the forlorn hope in attacks of this sort is not the bad generalship it seems, but is a means of getting out punishment and creating an example of a company that failed in some attack to come up to the standard of self-sacrifice expected of them by the German officers. Any company that wavers in an assault or hesitates to stand in an exposed position is singled out by the generals and remembered. A homily on the duties of a soldier is then delivered to this group and it is sent out on some forlorn hope expedition."

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hundred civilians, although there were no soldiers in the town.

The Chamber of Commerce trusts that the United States will use its influence to put an end to unjustifiable violence against unfortified cities.

MESSIMY GETS HIGHER RANK.

PARIS, Nov. 20.—Adolphe Messimy, former Minister of War, has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

M. Messimy went to the front at the beginning of the war as a Major on the General Staff. He recently received the decoration of the Legion of Honor for bravery in action.

Jockey Alec Carter Not Dead.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Nov. 20.—Sporting announces that Jockey Alec Carter is not dead, as was reported, but that he is a prisoner in Bavaria.

TELLS OF "MASSACRE."

British Official Bureau Reveals Charges Against Germans.

London, Nov. 20.—The official press bureau issues today another long report by the Belgian commission of inquiry into charges of German violations of the laws of war.

The report says more than 550 persons were shot by the Germans in what it describes as the "massacre of Tamines." Between 400 and 450 men were collected by the Germans in front of the village church, the report says, and the work of shooting them with rifles was begun. This proving too slow, the report says, a machine gun was brought in and the work was finished with haste.

The report also takes up what it calls the "sack of Dinant" and "outrages" in the Belgian province of Luxembourg. In Dinant, 700 inhabitants were killed. Of these eighty-four were shot in Parade Square. Fifty others who had taken refuge in a church were driven out and shot in front of the church. More than 1,000 "executions" of this sort were carried out in Belgian Luxembourg, according to the report.

SAYS LANDSTURM NEEDS URGING

Captured German Officer Reports Reserves on Lorraine Front.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Nov. 20.—The following note was appended to the official afternoon communique:

Troops of the German Landsturm are being used on the Lorraine front. An under officer taken prisoner states that the new men are harder to use ahead than the men of the first line, and that it is difficult to get them to advance out of the trenches. His army corps was ordered to hold its position without attacking and await the result of the decisive operations in Flanders.

LYONS EXPOSITION BURNS.

American and British Buildings Destroyed; New York Exhibit Saved.

LYONS, France, Nov. 20.—The American and British buildings at the International City Exposition, which was opened here last May, were destroyed by fire this afternoon. The section known as "The City of New York Exhibit" was saved. Workmen were able to save more than 100 cases of exhibits, which are soon to be sent to the Panama Exposition in San Francisco.

When the war broke out the French Government sent all the guns and munitions captured from the enemy to the exposition. An admission was charged for viewing the trophies and the proceeds went to the aid of the Belgians.

FRENCH CITY PROTESTS TO U. S.

Urges Intervention to Prevent Destruction of Civilian Property.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Nov. 20.—The Chamber of Commerce of Arras has sent a protest to the United States Consul at Dunkirk, asking that it be transmitted to Washington, regarding the incendiary bombardment by German artillery of stores and factories. The bombardment killed a

FLANDERS A FLOODED, SHELL SWEEP RUIN

Villages Are Laid Low and Whole Region Resembles an Inland Sea.

BIG GUNS UNEARTHED

By JOHN PROLEAU.

Special Correspondent of the London "Daily Mail."

FLANDERS, Nov. 19 (Delayed).—There is now evidence that a German withdrawal on our left wing has begun. The devastating floods have done their part and the tenacity of the Belgian and French troops has completed the work.

The Germans found it to be impossible to maintain practical positions in the chain of lakes and have begun to fall back to the trenches near Bruges, Ghent and Brussels.

In the last few days the fighting has been wholly an artillery duel, which the big guns of the Allies have won handsomely. All along the line to-day the only sound heard over the drenched fields was the cheerful roar of the Allies' batteries. The German guns which were bombarding Nieupoort have been silenced.

The price in destruction is heavy and is being paid in full by several villages. Ramscapelle, which recently was a smiling little town, is a confused heap of ruins. As usual, the church was the first and last building to suffer. The parts of the walls which remain standing have holes in them like lacework and it is a miracle that they stand at all. The tower was knocked out of shape. The corners have been torn off and the whole structure seems to nod in a perilous manner.

In Nieupoort there is nothing left whole. Ruin and desolation reign in the shattered streets. The entire place gradually crumbled under the rain of shells which hour after hour poured into it, and when the German howitzers were muted the remained nothing but heaps of smouldering bricks. The tower of the church still stands.

There is a horrible someness, a sickening monotony of devastation all over the rich, sleek land. You may call the burned out, stamped out villages by the names of Perwez, Ramscapelle, Steenvenskerke, Casteleke and Dixmude, but they are only names on the map. There is no difference between any of them. Dixmude is a smoke grimed shell. The track of its streets is lost in a wilderness of tumbled bricks, but it is not in any particular distinguishable from the other villages in this part of Flanders. Only a heap of burned ruins is lying on the shore of the inland sea.

In the last eight days the Allies have

captured four heavy guns and two mortars. All of these were taken from emplacements made before the declaration of war. The first pair was taken under dramatic circumstances. After the main body of the Germans had been definitely driven from Ramscapelle two big guns continued to drop shells on Furnes. For a long time their whereabouts could not be discovered.

Finally a number of fuses were picked up. By figures showing the setting the range was fixed. The country in that radius was scoured and the battery unearthed on a farm near St. Georges. The guns were sent there long before the war and were in gold (\$1,500) was paid for the privilege by the German Government.

The searching party found eight guns which had been hastily buried in a manure heap. The custodians of the guns were immediately shot. The next two were found by the same means in a brick kiln between Ramscapelle and Willems. With an immense quantity of ammunition, which had been left behind by the retreating Germans (two or three tons) as were the mortars which were found near Dixmude yesterday.

The ability of the Belgians to flood the country was a weapon which must have been left entirely out of the German calculations. Here it is not a question of a few inches of water spread over the fields. The inundations are floods in every sense of the word. The water is as high as the North Sea itself. A huge expanse of water covers thousands who died from bullet wounds. Hundreds of others who were drowned in six, eight or ten feet of water lie there and it will be a long time before the receding waters uncover the dead.

PAUL DE CASSAGNAC WOUNDED.

He Organized Pre-War Duel Campaign Against German Journalists.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Nov. 20.—Paul de Cassagnac, who started out on a campaign to flood Paris in connection with the condemnation by the German courts of Haniel, the Alsatian caricaturist, has been wounded at the front.

He was mentioned in the despatches for valor and for showing talent in maneuvering in connection with his brother, Guy de Cassagnac, who was killed at the opening of the war in Lorraine. The brothers were coeditors of *L'Eclairement* and both took part in the duelling campaign against the German journalists.

RUSSIANS SCORE IN CAUCASUS.

Turkish Column Defeated and Retreated at Oltichai.

PETROGRAD, Nov. 20.—The General Staff issued the following statement today in regard to the operations in the Caucasus:

Encircled by a second Russian column, the Turkish column in the region of Zerkharsk continued in the valley of Oltichai. A Turkish column was defeated and forced back toward Baku.

In the Erzerum region an action occurred along the whole front, but the fighting is impeded by the state of the roads, which have been rendered impassable by rains.

There is no activity in other parts of the zone of operations.

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KHEDIVE ON WAY TO JOIN TURKISH ARMY

Hopes to Regain Egypt by Arab Rebellion, Says Correspondent.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Nov. 20.—The Temps correspondent at Rhodes states that the Khedive of Egypt is trying to reach Damascus overland with the purpose of being present at the Turkish camp the moment the Turkish army corps concentrated at Mahan commences its invasion of Egypt. The Khedive's private yacht received a wireless order to enter the port of Rhodes the day before the declaration of war by Turkey against the Allies.

Further, the Khedive has organized on his own estate at Delamaya a powerful caravan, well provisioned, to enable him hastily to join the Turks. The correspondent adds:

"It is notorious that the Khedive joined hands with the Young Turks and the German military authorities immediately after England refused to allow him to return to Egypt. Two hundred thousand Turks are concentrated between Damascus and Mahan, according to a Turkish statement."

The correspondent of the Temps estimates this force at between 60,000 and 70,000. He says that the Khedive's idea is to come to the Arab population and conquer Egypt by means of a rebellion.

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